16 July 2018

Original: English**

Forty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific
Bangkok, 2–5 October 2018

Annotated provisional agenda

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures.
4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Fortieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific.
5. Consideration of topics by working groups:
   (a) Role of customs in effective border management strategies;
   (b) Latest trends in drug-related money-laundering and illicit financial flows, including the financing of terrorism through drug trafficking;
   (c) Inter-agency cooperation within and among countries on precursor chemical control;
   (d) Raising awareness about drug-related issues in educational settings.
6. Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016.
7. Implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1, on strengthening the subsidiary bodies of the Commission.
8. Organization of the Forty-third Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific.
9. Other business.
10. Adoption of the report of the Forty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific.

* Reissued for technical reasons on 25 July 2018.
** Available only in English, which is the working language of the subsidiary body.

V.18-04984 (E)

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Annotations

1. Election of officers

Elections are held in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council. Meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Asia and the Pacific, have in the past elected a Chair, two Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

The provisional agenda for the Forty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, was approved at the Forty-first Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok from 27 to 30 November 2017.

Following the adoption of the agenda, the Forty-second Meeting may wish to establish a timetable and agree on its organization of work. A proposed organization of work for the consideration of the Meeting is contained in the annex to the present document.

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda (UNODC/HONLAP/42/1)

3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its thirty-eighth session, recommended that general statements relating to national trends and statistics should not be read out, but rather should be circulated in written form. Accordingly, Governments were invited to submit to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), by 9 July 2018, a three-page report on the most recent trends in drug trafficking in their countries.

Participants are invited to inform the Forty-second Meeting about action taken by their Governments to enhance regional and subregional cooperation in areas such as joint investigations, law enforcement training and the sharing of information on and experiences in drug trafficking countermeasures. They are also invited to inform the Meeting about challenges impeding regional and subregional cooperation and about measures taken to overcome them.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking (UNODC/HONLAP/42/2)

Report of the Secretariat on regional and subregional cooperation in Asia and the Pacific (UNODC/HONLAP/42/3)

4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Fortieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific

Participants are invited to inform the Forty-second Meeting about action taken by their Governments with regard to the implementation of the recommendations adopted at the Fortieth Meeting. For its consideration of this item, the Forty-second Meeting will have before it a note prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of the replies submitted by Governments on action taken to implement those recommendations.

To enable the Secretariat to prepare a report on the status of implementation of those recommendations, a note verbale was transmitted to Governments on 5 April 2018, inviting them to return the completed questionnaire by 9 July 2018.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Fortieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific (UNODC/HONLAP/42/4)

5. Consideration of topics by working groups

Working groups will be established to review issues of regional importance and to facilitate informal discussions and a frank exchange of views on those issues. Speakers with relevant specialized knowledge will be invited to make introductory presentations on those issues to inform the working groups and facilitate discussion. Working groups are invited to present their observations, conclusions and recommendations to the plenary for endorsement and inclusion in the report on the Meeting. In preparing for the Meeting, delegates are invited to prepare material on the topics listed below.

(a) Role of customs in effective border management strategies

Customs authorities play a significant role in facilitating the cross-border flow and security of goods, means of transport and to a certain extent people, while ensuring compliance with national legislation and international instruments. Working jointly with police and other law enforcement agencies, they prevent, detect and investigate criminal activities, including all kinds of trafficking. As one of the key components of border enforcement, customs have a significant role in the collection and exchange of intelligence, and cooperation in risk analysis, interdictions and investigations.

Cooperation at the national, regional and international levels between customs and other law enforcement authorities is of utmost importance for preventing and detecting trafficking. In 2016, the World Customs Organization issued recommendations on developing and strengthening the role of customs administrations in tackling money-laundering and in confiscating the proceeds of crime. Although many States have already invested heavily in building the capacity of customs agencies, specific expertise in identifying and targeting high-risk container shipments and other forms trafficking across land, sea and air borders should be strengthened further.

Participants will be invited to share information on the practical steps they have taken to encourage and strengthen cross-border cooperation and, at the national level, inter-agency cooperation between customs and police and other relevant agencies. Participants are encouraged to highlight, in particular, actions and strategies that have proved to be effective, as well as areas where more efforts should be taken.

(b) Latest trends in drug-related money-laundering and illicit financial flows, including the financing of terrorism trough drug trafficking

The working group reviewing this topic is invited to discuss the challenges arising from drug-related money-laundering, including the laundering of proceeds of crime using cryptocurrencies, and the capacities of law enforcement agencies and financial intelligence units to trace illicit financial flows and transactions.

Participants will be invited to share information on the latest trends observed by their agencies in the extent and nature of drug-related money-laundering, as well as good practices in investigative practices in this area. Participants will also be invited to discuss issues related to the financing of terrorism through drug trafficking, and efficient international cooperation to confront them.

(c) Inter-agency cooperation within and among countries on precursor chemical control

Asia is a global centre for the chemical and pharmaceutical industries. Over recent years, evidence found at a variety of illicit laboratories showed that different methods were being used to manufacture illicit end products, in particular methamphetamine.

Those methods require different chemicals, of which some are under international control. However, an increasing number of chemicals is used that are not controlled, even at the national level.

The diversion of precursor chemicals has been identified as one of the factors behind the increasing amounts of synthetic drugs seized, in particular methamphetamine. The current situation underlines the need to enhance responses to the diversion and trafficking of precursor chemicals in the region. Discussions in relevant regional bodies and interventions by national law enforcement agencies indicate that a consensus is emerging, but they have not yet led to concrete action. An overall regional policy and functional regional strategy should be established and national strategies reviewed.

Participants will be invited to share their good practices in the control of precursor chemicals in cooperation with other relevant authorities within and among countries. They are also invited to discuss ways to improve existing control mechanisms and to investigate the diversion of chemicals. Participants may wish to exchange information on non-controlled chemicals identified in illicit laboratories, on cases of and joint investigations into diversion, and on the use of existing tools such as the Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN Online) system and the Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS), to prevent diversion and support investigations.

(d) Raising awareness about drug-related issues in educational settings

In the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, Member States recommended an increase in the availability, coverage and quality of scientific evidence-based prevention measures and tools that target relevant age and risk groups in multiple settings, reaching youth in school as well as out of school, among others, through drug abuse prevention programmes and public awareness-raising campaigns, including by using the Internet, social media and other online platforms, develop and implement prevention curricula and early intervention programmes for use in the education system at all levels, as well as in vocational training, including in the workplace, and enhance the capacity of teachers and other relevant professionals to provide or recommend counselling, prevention and care services.

In 2018, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs adopted resolution 61/2 on strengthening efforts to prevent drug abuse in educational settings.

Participants will be invited to share good practices and discuss how to implement these mandates.

6. Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016

In its resolution 56/10, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs requested the meetings of its subsidiary bodies to contribute to the monitoring of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem at the regional level by discussing regional views on progress made in that regard under the agenda item on the follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action.

In the same resolution, the Commission encouraged Member States to consider the expertise and composition of their delegations to the meetings of its subsidiary bodies, with a view to covering the various aspects of the world drug problem (demand, supply and international cooperation) in order to hold substantive discussions on the issue and to actively participate in the agenda item. In the resolution the Commission also requested the meetings of its subsidiary bodies, on the basis of their deliberations, to submit regional recommendations aimed at moving forward in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action.

The General Assembly held a special session on the world drug problem from 19 to 21 April 2016 and, in its resolution S-30/1, adopted an outcome document entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem". The outcome document contained a set of operational recommendations based on a review of the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action. The review had included an assessment of the achievements and of ways to address long-standing and emerging challenges in countering the world drug problem in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments.

The operational recommendations covered the following seven thematic areas: (a) demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as other health-related issues; (b) ensuring the availability of and access to controlled substances exclusively for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion; (c) supply reduction and related measures, effective law enforcement, responses to drug-related crime, and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation; (d) cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, children, women and communities; (e) cross-cutting issues in addressing and countering the world drug problem: evolving reality, trends and existing circumstances, emerging and persistent challenges and threats, including new psychoactive substances, in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments; (f) strengthening international cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility; and (g) alternative development, regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy and addressing socioeconomic issues.

Member States have resolved to take the steps necessary to implement the operational recommendations in close partnership with the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, as well as with civil society, and to share with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, timely information on progress made in implementing them.

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs is conducting the process of giving follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly with a focus on implementing the recommendations. To that end, discussions were held on all seven thematic areas in 2016 and 2017. During the intersessional period in 2018, the Commission will continue discussions on the implementation of the recommendations of the special session, as well as the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action. The updated workplan will be available from the UNODC website on the page dedicated to the meetings of the Commission.

At its sixtieth session, in March 2017, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided to convene a ministerial segment during its sixty-second session, to be held in Vienna in 2019, aimed at taking stock of the implementation of the commitments made to jointly address and counter the world drug problem, in particular in the light of the 2019 target date contained in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action.

In March 2018, the Commission adopted resolution 61/10, entitled "Preparations for the ministerial segment to be held during the sixty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in 2019", in which it set out organizational arrangements for the ministerial segment. The ministerial segment was to include a general debate and was to follow a format set out in the resolution. In the same resolution, the Commission decided that the ministerial segment was to include two interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables, to be conducted in parallel with the general debate in plenary, and set out details on the format of the round tables. Additional details on the ministerial segment and the way beyond 2019 will be discussed by the Commission at the intersessional meetings in September, October and November 2018.

Under the present item, participants in the Meeting will be invited to consider the challenges faced by the States of the region with regard to the implementation of the

Political Declaration and Plan of Action. Participants will also be invited to discuss how they could best contribute to the follow-up by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to the 2016 special session and the implementation of the outcome document, drawing on their technical expertise and their regional experiences.

Documentation

Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (E/2009/28–E/CN.7/2009/17, chap. I, sect. C)

General Assembly resolution S-30/1, entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem"

7. Implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1 on strengthening the subsidiary bodies of the Commission

Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1 reads as follows:

> In response to the invitation contained in paragraph 97 of General Assembly resolution 71/211 of 19 December 2016, and mindful of the requests contained in Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/10 of 15 March 2013 and the operational recommendation contained in paragraph 6 (c) of the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem", the Commission, at its 9th meeting, on 17 March 2017, decided:
>
> (a) To examine how its subsidiary bodies can better contribute to the implementation of the outcome document;
>
> (b) To inform its subsidiary bodies of the invitation contained in General Assembly resolution 71/211;
>
> (c) To invite the subsidiary bodies to consider that invitation at their upcoming meetings and report back to the Commission in due course.

The Forty-first Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific considered the implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1. Information on the deliberations is contained in the report of the Forty-first Meeting (UNODC/HONLAP/41/6) and in the report on action taken by the subsidiary bodies (E/CN.7/2018/9).

8. Organization of the Forty third Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific

The Forty-second Meeting is to consider a draft provisional agenda for the Forty-third Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, that includes topics for discussion in working groups and possible venues for future meetings. A decision at the Forty-second Meeting on the venue of the Forty-third Meeting and on the topics for the working groups would greatly facilitate the preparation and organization of the Forty-third Meeting. A conference room paper prepared by the Secretariat on a standard letter of agreement and conference requirements for hosting a meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Asia and the Pacific, will be made available to participants.

The Forty-second Meeting is invited to discuss any other matters related to the organization of its deliberations with a view to improving their substantive content and follow-up.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the Forty-third Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific (UNODC/HONLAP/42/5)

Standard letter of agreement and conference requirements for hosting a meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Asia and the Pacific (UNODC/HONLAP/42/CRP.1)

9. Other business

Under the item entitled "Other business", the Forty-second Meeting may wish to address any other important issues, such as urgent matters reflected in the country reports.

10. Adoption of the report of the Forty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific

The Forty-second Meeting will adopt its report, including the findings and recommendations of the working groups.

Annex

Proposed organization of work

Date and time		*Agenda item*	*Title or description*
Tuesday, 2 October	8.30 a.m.		Registration
	10 a.m.		Opening
		1	Election of officers
		2	Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
		3	Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures
	3 p.m.	4	Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Fortieth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific
		6	Follow up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016
		7	Implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs decision 60/1, on strengthening the subsidiary bodies of the Commission
Wednesday, 3 October	10 a.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups
	3 p.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups (*continued*)
Thursday, 4 October	10 a.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups (*continued*)
	3 p.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups (*continued*)
Friday, 5 October	10 a.m.	8	Organization of the Forty-third Meeting
		9	Other business
	3 p.m.	10	Adoption of the report of the Forty- second Meeting

V.18-04984